

Serial No. 09/934,626

January 19, 2005

Page 2

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) An image capturing device, comprising:
 - a processor;
 - at least one interface communicating with said processor and capable of transferring images out of said image capturing device; and
 - a memory communicating with said processor and capable of storing a plurality of records, with a record including image data and image status data indicating whether a copy of the image has been transferred out of the device;wherein said processor determines whether said memory includes any archived images as indicated by said status data and replaces one or more archived images in said memory with a newly captured image when insufficient free space exists in said memory to store said newly captured image.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said at least one interface is a communication interface capable of transmitting a stored image to an external device.
3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said at least one interface is a USB cable interface.
4. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said at least one interface is a removable memory medium interface capable of transmitting a stored image to a removable memory medium.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1, wherein said processor is capable of replacing one or more archived images in said memory with a newly captured image when said memory is full incapable of storing said newly captured image, with the replacing step comprising replacing an oldest stored archived image as indicated by a date/time information in a date/time storage cell of a record in said memory.

Serial No. 09/934,626

January 19, 2005

Page 3

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said memory comprises an internal memory.

8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said memory comprises a removable memory medium.

9. (Currently amended) A memory management method for a memory of an image capturing device, comprising the steps of:

transferring a copy of an image out of said memory during an image archiving operation; and

marking said image in said memory as an archived image; and

automatically replacing an wherein said archived image with a newly captured image
~~is capable of being replaced if said memory is full~~ lacks sufficient free space to store
said newly captured image.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the transferring step comprises transferring said copy to an external computer device.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the transferring step comprises transferring said copy to a removable memory medium.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the marking step comprises changing a status variable in an associated status storage cell to an archived state.

13. (Currently amended) A memory management method for a memory of an image capturing device, comprising the steps of:

determining whether said memory is capable of storing an additional image;

storing a captured image in said memory if sufficient free space exists in said memory;

determining if said memory contains at least one archived image, if said memory is not capable of storing said captured image; and

Serial No. 09/934,626

January 19, 2005

Page 4

replacing said at least one or more archived images with said captured image if said memory is not capable of storing said captured image and if said memory contains said at least one archived image.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the method is performed upon a press of a shutter button of said image capturing device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the method is performed upon completion of an image capture.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein an image capture is disabled if said memory is full and if said memory does not contain at least one archived image.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the ~~determining step of~~ determining additional image storage capability includes inspecting status variables corresponding to each image stored in said memory.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein an archived image ~~may be again downloaded~~ comprises a captured image a copy of which has been transferred to a removable memory in said image capturing device.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~13~~ 17, further comprising the step of changing a status variable of a replaced archived image to a non-archived status.

21. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein an archived image comprises a captured image a copy of which has been transferred to an external memory connected to said image capturing device.

Serial No. 09/934,626

January 19, 2005

Page 5

22. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein an archived image comprises a captured image a copy of which has been transferred to an external memory connected to said image capturing device and to a removable memory in said image capturing device.